

AGENDA ITEM IX A

UPDATES ON TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES

REPORT BY REGENT HENRY RELATIVE ON ACTIVITIES OF BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON TEACHER QUALITY

The Blue Ribbon Commission on Teacher Quality met on Thursday, January 11, 2001 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. in the Blue Cross Blue Shield Customer Service Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Dr. Michael Fullan of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education spoke to the Commission about challenges facing the Commission and the State as recommendations to improve teacher quality are implemented. Dr. Fullan is a national and international expert on educational change and has been contracted through the Title II Teacher Quality Enhancement grant to assist Louisiana in its efforts to improve teacher quality. Dr. Fullan emphasized the importance of universities and school districts equally accepting responsibilities for the preparation of teachers and the improvement of schools.

Cathy Severns, chairperson of a Professional Development Consortium, presented recommendations of the Consortium designed to establish and implement a comprehensive professional development system for teachers. These recommendations are the result of meetings with national experts held in Fall 2000, during which Consortium members also reviewed information about professional development in other states and existing research pertaining to effective professional development for teachers. A panel composed of four members of the Professional Development Consortium responded to questions from the Commission.

Ron Akins, chairperson of an Educational Leadership Consortium, presented recommendations of the Consortium designed to recruit, prepare, and retain effective principals. These recommendations are the result of meetings with national experts held in Fall 2000 during which Consortium members also reviewed existing research and examining practices in surrounding states to develop their recommendations. A panel of four member of the Educational Leadership Consortium responded to questions from the Commission.

Commission members agreed to further study recommendations of the two consortia and come to the February Commission meeting prepared to adapt, accept, or change the consortia recommendations as necessary.

AGENDA ITEM IX B

UPDATES ON TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES

PROPOSED TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Blue Ribbon Commission on Teacher Quality met from September 1999 to November 2000 to develop a Teacher Preparation Accountability System for all public and private universities in Louisiana. After providing a brief overview of the new accountability program at the Academic Affairs Committee meeting on December 6, 2000, a full description of the system was presented to the chief academic officers at a meeting that was held on January 4, 2001. A motion was made, seconded, and passed during the meeting of the chief academic officers to recommend approval of the Teacher Preparation Accountability System.

STAFF ANALYSIS

The Teacher Preparation Accountability System examines three major areas which include: *Teacher Quantity* (e.g., number of traditional and alternate certification program completers related to a predetermined program completer target, number of traditional and alternate certification program completers in critical certification shortage areas and rural district shortage areas, and number of racial minority and teaching minority traditional and alternate certification program completers); *Institutional Performance* (e.g., percentage of program completers who take and pass the state examination for teachers, survey ratings by new teachers on the quality of their teacher preparation programs, survey ratings by assessors of new teachers regarding the quality of the teacher preparation programs, and retention rates of traditional and alternate certification program completers); and *Authentic University-School Partnerships* (e.g., improvements in growth targets of Professional Development Schools and other indicators). Attached is a copy of the proposed System

Teacher Preparation Performance Scores will be calculated for every public and private university in the state. During April 2001, all universities will be assigned a label of Satisfactory or Below Satisfactory based upon their Teacher Preparation Performance Scores. Beginning April 2002, all universities will be assigned labels on a yearly basis of Exemplary, Quality, Satisfactory, At-Risk, or Low Performing based upon new data used to calculate the Teacher Preparation Performance Scores. Universities that receive labels of Exemplary and Quality will be rewarded for their efforts. Universities that receive labels of At-risk or Low Performing will enter into corrective actions. All universities will be expected to achieve a "Quality" label by 2004-2005. Low Performing universities that fail to reach a Satisfactory level within two years will lose their state approval and not be allowed to accept new students into their teacher preparation programs. These universities will be required to spend a minimum of one year reconstituting their programs and must

obtain approval from the Board of Regents before allowing new students to enter their programs.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee grant approval for the proposed Teacher Preparation Accountability System.

AGENDA ITEM IX C

UPDATES ON TEACHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE FORUM ON LEADING THE TRANSFORMATION OF TEACHER PREPARATION IN LOUISIANA

STAFF SUMMARY

The Board of Regents sponsored a *Forum on Leading the Transformation of Teacher Preparation in Louisiana*, designed specifically for system and campus heads and chief academic officers to discuss state expectations for the creation of PK-16+ Councils and the redesign of teacher preparation programs on campuses across the state. The forum was held on Friday, January 12, 2001, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge.

The morning began with statements from Dr. E. Joseph Savoie (Commissioner of Higher Education), Stephen Perry (Governor's Chief of Staff), Dr. Cecil J. Picard (State Superintendent of Education), Senator Gerald Theunissen (Chair, Senate Education Committee), Representative Carl Crane (Chair, House Education Committee), and Dr. William Jenkins (President, Louisiana State University System) pertaining to the significance of universities, school districts, and communities joining forces to improve teacher quality and student achievement. Dr. Ronald Eaglin (President, Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky) discussed efforts to develop and implement a PK-16+ Council in Kentucky.

The afternoon session began with Dr. Wilmer S. Cody (Senior Consultant, American Council on Education) providing illustrations of what university presidents in other parts of the country are doing in response to the American Council on Education's action agenda for college and university presidents to transform the way teachers are taught. Dr. Jeanne M. Burns (Associate Commissioner for Teacher Education Initiatives) provided specific information pertaining to state plans to support universities in their redesign activities and state expectations for the implementation of campus plans during the next three years. Mrs. Glenny Lee Buquet (Chair, Blue Ribbon Commission on Teacher Quality and President, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education) and Mrs. Frances Henry (Vice-Chair, Blue Ribbon Commission on Teacher Quality and Chair, Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Board of Regents) emphasized both the Commission's and State Boards' support of this initiative.